28th February 1929]

Fisheries

Income from the issue of salt for curing fish in Malabar and South Kanara.

* 1515 Q.—Mr. A B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) how many years it is since the price of salt issued for curing fish was raised from 10 annas to Rs. 1-4-0 per maund; and

(b) what additional amount is being collected per mensem in Malabar and South Kanara as the result of this doubling of the price of salt?

A.—(a) The price of salt issued for curing fish was raised from annas 10 to Rs. 1-4-0 on 1st April 1924.

(b) The increased payments made consequent on the higher price were Rs. 9,784 per mensem on an average during the past four years.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"With reference to the answer to clause (b), may I know whether representations have been made to the Government to reduce the price of salt and whether the Government have considered those representations?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"I do not know, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswmi Mudaliyar:—"May I know if the matter has not been considered for the last five years?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"It has been engaging the attention of the Government."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I ask whether the Government are going to take any action in the near future?"

The hon. Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar:—"They are waiting for the recommendations of the Fisheries Committee."

Improvements in the working of fish-curing yards.

*1516 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Director of Fisheries has been asked to submit a special report on the working of the fish-curing yards which have sustained a loss in recent years; and

(b) whether the Government have considered what measures should be taken for improving the working of such yards?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The Government are awaiting the report called for from the Director of Fisheries.

Industries

Action taken on the recommendations of the Textile Industry Conference.

*1517 Q.—Mr. K. Koti Reddi: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state what action he proposes to take on the recommendations of the Conference of Members of the Legislative Council and non-official gentlemen on the working of the textile industry in this Presidency?

A.—The recommendations are under consideration.